

News from the Nebraska Veterans Coalition 10 March 2020

Information addressed in this newsletter and Twitter are linked to our Website. You are also invited to our Facebook page with over 4,200 friends. Our twitter page @VetsCoalitionNE. has our posts, those from the Nebraska Departments of Veteran Affairs, Labor and Economic Delevement, Nebraska Small Buisness Administeration and other informative followers.

Our website contains both Nebraska and National News events and links to websites of interest to veterans. <http://www.nebraskaveterans.org/>,

WHAT WE DO AND WHAT OUR GOALS ARE:

The Nebraska Veteran's Coalition is a non-partisan and/or a bi-partisan group. We want to keep military members and business managers informed on the status of veterans related Legislation in the Nebraska Unicameral. Communicate with Legislators, the Governor's Office, Chambers of Commerce and community leaders recommending Nebraska establish a Home Base Program for veterans like other states. Promote increasing tax revenues by retaining the Nebraska veteran population along with their families to remaining here. Share information to improve support of veterans and their families. Persuade Veterans to be more involved in the process of Democracy. Work with the Nebraska Departments of Labor, Veterans Affairs and Veterans Service Organizations

VA Welcome Kit simplifies VA benefits, service process

What can VA do for me?

The [VA Welcome Kit](#) makes it easier for service members, Veterans, family members, Caregivers and Survivors to understand the many different benefits and services offered by VA.

“The Welcome Kit can help guide you whether it’s time to go to school, get a job, buy a house, get healthcare, retire or make plans for your own care as you age,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. People can learn how to apply for VA healthcare, a disability rating, education benefits and more. While still serving or a Veteran, there are many VA benefits and services available. The VA Welcome Kit includes handy one-page Quick Start Guides focused on specific topics. VA regularly updates the Welcome Kit online as new information becomes available.

Download the kit

<https://www.blogs.va.gov/Vantage/71634/>

Trump signs bill to expand VA dental care coverage for veterans

<https://connectingvets.radio.com/articles/free-or-cheaper-veteran-dental-care-through-proposed-program?fbclid=IwAR2nH-Ky9sBKBBGGdoE9AnrCPo7jtr16bvbk1gBX5naCmJUlbmHLgl1p5kp0>

President Donald Trump signed into law a new measure allowing VA to expand reduced or no-cost dental care coverage to veterans on Monday.

House Joint Resolution 80 approves a request from the Department of [Veterans Affairs](#) to begin a pilot program to increase VA-funded dental care options.

Only about eight percent of veterans who get care at VA currently qualify for VA-backed dental coverage.

The bill was introduced by Rep. [Phil Roe](#), R-Tenn., ranking member of the House Veterans Affairs Committee to kick off a new avenue for veteran benefits through the MISSION Act, which replaced the Choice Act in June 2019.

“In addition to increasing veterans’ access to care, the MISSION Act also created a Center for Innovation for Care and Payment to give VA an avenue to test new payment and service delivery models that have the potential to better serve veterans and taxpayers,” Roe said Monday evening. “This resolution would approve the Center’s first waiver request – to allow VA to coordinate free or reduced-cost [dental care](#) in the community for veterans who are ineligible for dental care through VA. This would greatly enhance not only the dental care provided to those who have served but also their overall health and well-being.”

Poor oral health can have a “significant negative effect on overall health,” according to VA. Clinical research has found potential connections between gum problems and heart disease, bacterial pneumonia and stroke.

VA Secretary Robert Wilkie asked Congress for the opportunity to pursue the [pilot program](#), which would allow VA to enter agreements with private dental service providers in the community who agree to provide free or discounted dental care to veterans who are enrolled in VA health care, but who may not qualify for VA dental care.

Vets Helping Vets Moving Veterans Forward

<https://mvfne.org/?fbclid=IwAR05hK0Sx4M1JOVghKm6-fhhDfrPtvefSdsrSixTEGsnXbEmP5bijDVYAAg>

Moving Veterans Forward was founded by Ron Hernandez to help homeless Veterans in Iowa and Nebraska get housing. Our main goal is to give these veterans the boost they need to turn their lives around and become self-sufficient. Moving Veterans Forward is run by an ALL VOLUNTEER team with the sole mission of assisting America’s Veterans who have fallen victim to the vast problems that affect many of those who serve our great nation.

Our staff, comprised primarily of former Veterans, work hard to ensure Veterans returning from duty have a home of their own. While homecoming is certainly a time of celebration, readjustment back to civilian life can be a struggle for many returning Veterans. We aim to stand in that gap and be the helping hand our brothers and sisters need.

In addition to helping our Veterans get housing, much of what we do involves collecting furniture, clothing and other household items.

Because our staff is all-volunteer, 100% of all donations we receive go towards helping our Veterans and the non-personnel operations of Moving Veterans Forward.

Moving Veterans Forward was founded by Ron Hernandez from Omaha, Nebraska. He now dedicates a large part of his time helping homeless Veterans in Iowa and Nebraska to get placed in homes. [The Veteran's Administration](#) out of Omaha notifies him of pending placements and Ron begins to move them in and find the necessities that they need. A large part of our endeavors is collecting furniture, clothing and other household items. The main goal is to give these veterans the boost that they need to turn themselves around to become self-sufficient.

Moving Veterans Forward relies completely on volunteers and everything that is collected is donated from homes locally. Thanks to social media like Facebook with community links, the support from our area has been overwhelming. Every little bit helps, but there is so much more to be done.

The purpose of the Fund is to encourage, solicit, receive and use charitable contributions and the income derived there from (even to the point of exhaustion of principal) in support of the current and future needs of Moving Veterans Forward. The future needs of Moving Veterans Forward may include but not limited to purchasing furniture, food, renting storage units, maintaining vehicle expenses and reimbursement of mileage.

Thank you to everyone who has assisted with this mission.

Millard American Legion Post 374 doing their part of moving Veterans Forward

VETERANS

It's time to give the membership a chance to directly support a great Veterans cause. Most of the time we just pay our dues and let our Directors\Commanders\Presidents decide what to do with the money. There is nothing wrong with that, but if you aren't part of the discussion, do you really feel like you are part of the solution? The members I talked to didn't really feel like they were doing enough, but without a focus, it really makes it hard to decide how, or who to help. And the great members of our Post want to help, that's what makes us great.

So, we've come up with a way that the individual membership from all families can directly contribute to helping a homeless Veteran get a second chance. Moving Vets Forward (MVF) is an organization that helps put homeless vets from Iowa and Nebraska into homes. Their goal is to give Veterans the boost they need to turn themselves around and become self-sufficient. Since these vets have nothing, MVF gives

them everything they need to get started again, at no cost to the vet. We are going to place a blue 55 gallon drum in the meeting room at the Post as well as a list of things they need. Most of these items are under \$10, so they are pretty reasonable. Each month we will check and see if the needed items have changed, and post a new list. This will be something that continues throughout the year. We know the membership at Post 374 are great with all the raffles, food nights and fund raisers that you support, but I still think there is enough room left to help out these homeless vets that are just trying to get their lives back together.

Here is the current list of items that are needed:

Brooms\Dustpans, Can Openers Electric\Manual, Clorox Wipes, Comet, Dish Drying Racks, Ice Cube Trays, Silverware Trays, Small Rugs, Small Trash Cans. Toilet Bowl Brushes

This is a great opportunity, as the membership, to show how much we care about the health and well-being of our Veterans, as well as the Pillars of the American Legion Families.

Moving Vets Forward - <https://mvfne.org/>

Thank you!

Marty Timberlake, Nebraska State ALR Liaison

402-699-1216

[William Klumper](#) I would like to add they can use art. It can be a painting, photograph, clay art. Many are creative and piece of art helps to make it home. 4 blank walls is not inviting.

I know of a group of Veterans at the VA who donate their art. Much of it speaks to healing and moving forward.